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From: Presidency / General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations
No. prev. doc.: 13120/21
Subject: State of play of the implementation of the roadmap following the independent evaluation of the EU Policy Cycle/EMPACT 2018-2021



Recommendation 3.3 of the roadmap¹ on the implementation of the recommendations of the independent evaluation of the EU Policy Cycle/EMPACT 2018-2021, adopted by COSI in December 2020, tasks National EMPACT Coordinators (NECs) to monitor the implementation of the roadmap. The monitoring should be a standing point on the NEC agenda and short bi-annual updates should be provided to COSI SG/COSI.

In order to assist NECs with the monitoring role, the General Secretariat of the Council collected information from all 'recommendation leaders' included in the roadmap and prepared an overview on the state of play of the implementation of the recommendations in March 2022 which is outlined in the Annex.

¹ 13686/2/20 REV 2

**Roadmap on the implementation of recommendations from the independent evaluation
of the EU Policy Cycle / EMPACT 2018-2021**

Governance Recommendations

Recommendations	Actions recommended	Relevant Actors and recommendation leader (RL)	Timeline	State of Play
Ensuring the sustainability of the EU Policy Cycle/EMPACT				
1.1 Assessing the relevance (value added and potential risks) of making the EUPC/EMPACT a permanent policy	The upcoming Council conclusions on the "permanent continuation of EMPACT 2022+" will agree to make the new EU Policy Cycle a permanent cycle that will not need to be renewed every four years. Even if the EU Policy Cycle would become a permanent policy it will keep the evaluation and monitoring mechanisms and include flexibility regarding the review of priorities based on the EU SOCTA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COSI (RL) • European Commission • GSC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 2021: Council Conclusions EMPACT 2022 + 	<p align="center">Status: Completed</p> <p>The establishment of EMPACT as a permanent EU instrument was included as one of the key changes in the Council conclusions on the permanent continuation of EU policy cycle for organised and serious international crime: EMPACT 2022+ approved on 8 March 2021 (doc. 6481/21).</p>
1.2 Assessing the scope to align the budget of the EUPC/EMPACT with its added value and ambition	An expert working group should be created and include all relevant actors building upon the work of the previous “ <i>ad-hoc WG on the funding of EMPACT</i> ” led by Austria and France. It will address EMPACT funding such as the possibility of a different funding and allocation mechanism as well as the potential criteria for the distribution of funds. The COM and Europol will assist the leader of the working group using their expertise in this area and will inform the group about the outcomes of the parallel discussions regarding the implementation of recommendations 2.2. and 6.3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COSI (RL) • COM (assist RL) • EUROPOL (assist RL) • NECs • GSC • Drivers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 2020/January 2021: Group created • April 2021: Update / possible conclusions presented to NECs/COSI SG 	<p align="center">Status: Ongoing</p> <p>The report of the ad hoc working group on the EMPACT funding (ad hoc WG), co-chaired by AT/FR/PL, was submitted to COSI SG in June and further updated in July 2021.</p> <p>Following the exchange of views in September 2021 on the recommendations included in the report, COSI SG agreed on the way forward proposed by the Presidency (11500/21).</p> <p>Relevant stakeholders were invited to implement the recommendations.</p>

Recommendations	Actions recommended	Relevant Actors and recommendation leader (RL)	Timeline	State of Play
				<p>The ad-hoc WG was invited to continue with the work on 3 recommendations (availability of High Value Grants from January 1st, possible inclusion of High Value Targets/Operational Task Forces funding under EMPACT and identification of critical costs that can be covered from regular EMPACT funds or the Internal Security Fund).</p> <p>The working group met in November 2021 and in January 2022, online.</p> <p>In the November meeting the WG analysed if there is still a business case for the request to have money from HVGs available in early January each year, keeping in mind that this would change the entire planning process. The group did not see a business case to further elaborate on that proposal.</p> <p>In the January meeting EU COM presented the EMPACT specific action call (15 million €) and answered questions.</p> <p>The only open item is the articulation between OTF and EMPACT funding.</p> <p>The outcome of the Seminar Towards more transversality in the fight against transnational organised crime, organised and held by the French NEC team in Paris on 24-25/2/2022, also brought recommendations concerning this topic (Information of the Drivers). That is why the trio chair put this work on pause for the moment.</p>

Recommendations	Actions recommended	Relevant Actors and recommendation leader (RL)	Timeline	State of Play
2. Strengthening the governance of the EU Policy Cycle/EMPACT				
2.1 Enhancing the role of National EMPACT Coordinators	To create and update a list of relevant strategic meetings to which the NEC representative (from TRIO Presidency) should be invited to or the NEC community should be briefed on (meeting minutes). The list, together with further technical details, will be submitted to NECs for approval during each NEC meeting. A standing informative point on EMPACT to be included in the EPCC agenda.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GSC (RL to prepare and share list) • COM • NECs • EU Agencies • European Police Chiefs Convention (Europol to lead this point) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 2021: First list to be brought to NEC meeting 	<p>Status: Ongoing</p> <p>Following the NEC meeting in April 2021 and comments received, the rules for sending the invitations/meeting minutes as well as the list of relevant strategic meetings was reviewed and sent to the relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>The document with updates from the relevant stakeholders was shared with the NECs in October 2021.</p> <p>Due to the COVID-19 limitations, only a limited number of meetings took place.</p> <p>A second updated version will be submitted to the NEC meeting in April 2022.</p>
2.2 Empowering Drivers to reallocate funds	The Commission and Europol to address this recommendation bilaterally as it is based upon the interpretation of EU legal provisions, namely the financial regulation. The outcomes/unified guidance (possibly in writing) will be shared with the expert WG on funding (see recommendation 1.2), NECs and COSI SG.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COSI • COM (RL) • EUROPOL (RL) • NECs • GSC • Drivers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 2021: Conclusion/ Guidance submitted to NECs/COSI SG 	<p>Status: Completed</p> <p>COM (DG HOME) and Grant Management team at Europol discussed and explored this item bilaterally and provided a unified view that was sent by GSC to the expert WG on EMPACT funding.</p>

Strategic Recommendations

Recommendations	Actions recommended	Relevant Actors and action leader (AL)	Timeline	State of Play
3. Rethinking the steps of the EU Policy Cycle/EMPACT				
3.1 Removing the MASPs	<p>Thematic MASPs will be removed as the second step of the EU Policy Cycle. In order to ensure the consistency and coherence among the OAPs as well as the multi-disciplinary and multi-agency approach the 'common horizontal minimum strategic goals' (CHSG) will be kept. One “General Multi Annual Strategic Plan” will be designed and contain all CHSG. A master workshop will be organised in June/July 2021 (tbc) to design the CHSG. Each CHSG will be implemented within each EU crime priority's OAP and tailored according to their specific needs. If relevant, additional strategic goals can be added as well.</p> <p>Strategic elements should be added to the OAPs. The changes will be reflected in the EU Policy Cycle terms of reference (ToR) and OAP template.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COSI • European Commission (RL) • Europol / EU Agencies / Networks • Drivers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 2021: Possible modifications of the OAP/MASP template. • May/June 2021: Preparation of general MASP • June/July 2021: General MASP workshop 	<p style="text-align: center;">Status: Completed</p> <p>A single general MASP containing CHSGs was developed and adopted (document: 10109/21).</p> <p>Given the COVID-19 sanitary situation, the development of the General-MASP was performed through a hybrid format, combining a written procedure (launched on 30 April) with an online workshop on 11 June. The general MASP was agreed by the COSI SG in July 2021.</p>
3.2 Endowing all crime priorities with a dedicated OAP	<p>Without pre-empting future discussions and decisions on the EMPACT priorities at the Ministerial level, all crime priorities should be endowed with one or more OAPs and with a relevant budget. Consideration should be given to avoid the creation of too many priorities including by gathering several OAPs under one umbrella where relevant.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COSI (RL) • COM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May/June 2021: Council Conclusions on the setting of the EMPACT Crime Priorities (2022-2025) 	<p style="text-align: center;">Status: Completed</p> <p>All EMPACT 2022-2025 crime priorities agreed by the Council in May 2021 have one or more OAPs (see Council conclusions setting the EU's priorities for the fight against serious and organised crime for EMPACT 2022-2025, doc. 9184/21).</p>

Recommendations	Actions recommended	Relevant Actors and action leader (AL)	Timeline	State of Play
3.3 Monitoring the implementation of the recommendations from the Independent Evaluation	The implementation will be monitored by NECs (standing point on the agenda) and short bi-annual updates will be provided to COSI SG/COSI.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COM • COSI • NECs (RL) • GSC (assist) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 2021: Initial update to be brought to the NEC meeting • May 2021: Initial COSI SG/COSI update 	<p style="text-align: center;">Status: Ongoing</p> As requested a third update about the state of play is submitted to the NEC meeting in April 2022 and COSI SG in May 2022.

Recommendations	Actions recommended	Relevant Actors and action leader (AL)	Timeline	State of Play
4. Rethinking the roles of the stakeholders of the EU Policy Cycle/EMPACT				
<p>4.1 Tasking co-drivers/coordinators with implementing specific Strategic Goals</p>	<p>After the identification of the common horizontal strategic goals, there will be a call for specialised co-drivers /coordinators (in addition to the co-drivers) that will be responsible for the implementation of specific CHSG. This change will be explored and will be reflected in the EU Policy Cycle ToR.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COSI (RL) • EU Agencies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 2021: Council Conclusions EMPACT 2022 + • June/July 2021: Identification of co-drivers/coordinators to supervise the CHSG following the general MASP workshop • OAP 2022 drafting preparation 	<p style="text-align: center;">Status: Completed</p> <p>The new concept of strengthening the role of co-drivers in the implementation of strategic goals as well as the role of coordinator of the common horizontal strategic goals were included in the EMPACT Terms of Reference (9921/21). Europol invites all Coordinators to the regular coordination meetings with Drivers (Drivers ‘Days).</p>
<p>4.2 Consider appointing EU Agencies to drive cross-cutting crime priorities</p>	<p>In order to ensure that the EU Policy Cycle remains a Member State led exercise, the involvement of EU Agencies will be strengthened by better 'empowering' them as co-drivers, for example as the role of a CHSG co-driver/coordinator outlined in recommendation 4.1. An initial exchange of views at the NEC meeting under the PT Presidency.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COSI (RL) • European Commission • EU Agencies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 2021: NEC meeting • June 2021: Identification of relevant actors • OAP 2022 drafting preparation under the SI presidency 	<p style="text-align: center;">Status: Completed</p> <p>The new role of coordinator of common horizontal strategic goals (including the reference to the unique position of EU Agencies) was included in the Terms of Reference (9921/21). Europol was appointed as a coordinator of 4 common horizontal strategic goals (CHSGs) intelligence picture, investigation and judicial response, on-line trade in illicit goods and services, criminal finance, money laundering and asset recovery, Frontex will be alternate coordinator for the CHSG on document fraud (coordinate is France), CEPOL was appointed as the coordinator of CHSG on capacity building through training networking and innovation. In addition, EU networks (EUCPN and ENAA) were appointed as coordinators of prevention and harm reduction, assistance to victims, awareness raising and the administrative approach; COM services</p>

Recommendations	Actions recommended	Relevant Actors and action leader (AL)	Timeline	State of Play
				(DG NEAR, DG INTPA and FPI) were appointed as coordinators of CHSG External dimension: cooperation with non-EU partners.
4.3 Endorsing (and implementing) continuity of Drivers' position	In order to assist in the structured handover procedure and continuity of the Drivers position whilst ensuring that the newcomer is properly informed, Europol will prepare a first step 'guide for Drivers' which will provide a more detailed guidance of the Driver's role building on the ToR. This document can then be further developed and adapted at national level according to national needs and methodology.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU Member States • NECs • Europol (RL) • Drivers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 2021: NEC meeting • June 2021: Drivers Day at Europol 	<p style="text-align: center;">Status: Completed</p> Europol organised the Drivers Days event on 8-9 July (physical & online format) offering the relevant topics to support new Drivers in their role. Handover was facilitated by the presence of some Drivers from the 2018-2021 cycle. The "First step guide for Drivers" was presented and made available on the EPE.

Recommendations	Actions recommended	Relevant Actors and action leader (AL)	Timeline	State of Play
5. Reinforcing the communication of the EU Policy Cycle/EMPACT				
<p>5.1 Considering using EMPACT as the sole name for the EUPC.</p>	<p>The sole name for the cycle will be "EMPACT" accompanied by a logo from the existing EMPACT branding style guide, as appropriate. Media communications to use #EMPACT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COSI • All relevant actors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 2021: To come into effect with EMPACT 2022+ 	<p style="text-align: center;">Status: Completed</p> <p>The substitution of the term ‘EU Policy cycle for organised and serious international crime’ for the sole name ‘EMPACT’ (European Multidisciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats) was included as one of the key changes in the Council conclusions on the permanent continuation of EU Policy cycle for organised and serious international crime: EMPACT 2022+ that were approved on 8 March 2021 (doc. 6481/21).</p>

Recommendations	Actions recommended	Relevant Actors and action leader (AL)	Timeline	State of Play
<p>5.2 Increasing the communication role of EU Agencies and COSI</p>	<p>EMPACT communication should become a standing agenda topic at the JHA Agencies' network meetings. Taking into account existing documents (for instance EMPACT media blueprint) the meetings should explore how to include the communication on EMPACT into their communication strategies/plans, including the coordination and alignment with other relevant activities. This could possibly be introduced into their end of year annual report.</p> <p>Europol should, together with MS, EU Agencies and other relevant stakeholders, continue to develop and implement the media blueprint and explore further possibilities for strengthening the EMPACT communication. EMPACT should be added as a standing item to Europol's media contact points agenda. Europol will update the NECs, if possible in April, in relation to the discussions and conclusions from the media contact points meeting. NECs should further familiarise themselves with media contact points and provide EMPACT related communications. EMPACT activities and operational results should be consistently highlighted in the regular Trio Presidency reports to the EP and the national parliaments on the proceedings of the COSI to further raise awareness among MEPs and EU citizens.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU Agencies (RL) • COSI (RL) • NECs • European Commission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 2021: First update at the NEC meeting • regular updates to the European Parliament and national parliaments 	<p>Status: Ongoing</p> <p>The EMPACT Joint Communication Strategy was agreed upon and EMPACT communication experts/contact points were nominated in December 2021. The first meeting of the EMPACT communication network took place on 18 March 2022 in the Frotex HQ in Warsaw.</p> <p>The experts discussed how the strategy will be evaluated and how the network will be governed. This may include a chair and deputy chair of the trio presidency for a mandate of 18 months.</p> <p>The JHA Agencies stepped up their effort in coordinating the promotion of EMPACT in a coherent and comprehensive manner.</p> <p>A dedicated discussions on EMPACT communication was organised by Frontex and Europol for all JHA Agencies on 13 October 2021. The meeting served to enhance awareness of EMPACT, also among the Agencies not systematically involved in EMPACT activities. It also allowed communication experts in the Agencies to better understand the EMPACT ecosystem, discuss how the Agencies can better join efforts in communicating about the relevant activities and how to involve those JHA agencies which normally do not take part in EMPACT.</p>

Recommendations	Actions recommended	Relevant Actors and action leader (AL)	Timeline	State of Play
<p>5.3 Developing national communication roadmaps</p>	<p>EMPACT's success is most evident at (EU) OAP level development and therefore communication should be at the level of the OAPs / Drivers. Each driver (supported by co-drivers and action leaders) could be asked to signal whether a given action is potentially relevant and suitable for communication and what kind of communication, including the possible month(s). This would enable planning of communication activities, which is the key for visibility.</p> <p>Europol is invited to share and discuss the EMPACT communication blueprint strategy with the media contact points with a view to gaining a deeper knowledge of best practices and methodology for effective communication at both EU and national level. Subsequently the discussion will continue at the NEC meeting in line with recommendation 5.2.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Europol (RL) • OAP Drivers (RL) • EU Member States • EU Agencies • NECs (RL) • European Commission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date tbc: • Media contact point meeting • NEC meeting 	<p>Status: Ongoing</p> <p>The EMPACT Joint Communication Strategy was agreed and EMPACT communication experts/contact points nominated in December 2021. The first meeting of the EMPACT communication network took place on 18 March 2022.</p> <p>One of the tasks of the EMPACT communication experts (included in the strategy) is to implement the strategy in their country/organisation and provide input for the joint report about the implementation of the Strategy that will be presented to NECs meetings every April.</p>

Recommendations	Actions recommended	Relevant Actors and action leader (AL)	Timeline	State of Play
<p>5.4 Enhancing awareness of national prosecutors</p>	<p>A communication campaign specifically addressed to national judicial actors should be launched to raise awareness of the EU Policy Cycle/EMPACT and emphasise possible synergies/co-operation areas and examples of law enforcement-prosecutors co-operation. The campaign should be prepared by Eurojust, Eurojust Judicial Network and Europol.</p> <p>An informative presentation of EMPACT should be given to the College of EUROJUST and plenary meeting of EJN. Details to be further discussed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EUROJUST (RL) • EUROPOL (assist) • European Judicial Network • NECs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEC meeting under the SI Presidency - follow up report prepared by EUROJUST. 	<p>Status: Completed</p> <p>Eurojust, in consultation with EJN and Europol, designed a communication campaign for prosecutors. This campaign consists of a communication package that can be used in any presentation on Eurojust or EU criminal justice, presentations at events organised by Eurojust, a webinar and methods of gathering feedback.</p> <p>The communication package was presented to the College of Eurojust at its meeting of 8 June 2021. At the same meeting, Europol delivered a presentation on EMPACT.</p> <p>The webinar “Prosecuting with EMPACT” took place on 8 September 2021. Speakers included representatives of Eurojust, Europol and the Commission (DG HOME). Around 180 participants attended the event. The recording of the webinar is published on YouTube². Eurojust prepared and presented the final report summarising the results of the campaign to College of Eurojust and the NEC meeting of 27-28 October 2021.</p> <p>Europol supported Eurojust by providing input for the awareness raising material.</p>

² https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLeNV0ACOOBu_yEKDev3z2ozMwSHmRQWom

Operational/Technical Recommendations

Recommendations	Actions recommended	Relevant Actors and action leader (AL)	Timeline	State of Play
6. Enhancing action design and implementation				
<p>6.1 Developing a compendium of good practices</p>	<p>Europol to develop a compendium of lessons learned and good practices related to implementation of OAPs based initially on information provided by the Drivers (reporting) and NEC meeting reports. NECs can inform the other NECs in order to raise awareness about how Member States addressed specific implementation problems of OAPs.</p> <p>As a follow-up, the possibility of contributions from other relevant actors should be considered. This shall be a living document added as a standing agenda item for the NEC meetings, updated when necessary and available on the Europol Platform for Experts (EPE).</p> <p>NECs will be responsible to share these documents at national level.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Europol (RL) • NECs • EU Agencies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First draft to be presented at NEC meeting April 2021. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Status: Completed</p> <p>Compendium was presented during the Drivers Days event at Europol on 8-9 July and made available on the EPE.</p>
<p>6.2 Ensuring SMARTness of KPIs</p>	<p>Europol to provide support in defining SMART indicators by preparing an annex to the KPI Guidelines from 2017 with one example per strategic goal for SMART KPIs and one with non-SMART KPIs using anonymised examples from OAPs 2020, with a commentary in order to illustrate.</p> <p>During OAP drafting Europol will provide advice to specific OAs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Europol (RL) • EMPACT participants • COSI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 2021: NEC meeting 	<p style="text-align: center;">Status: Completed</p> <p>The update of KPI guidelines was presented during the Drivers Days at Europol on 8-9 July and made available on the EPE.</p> <p>In addition, the EMPACT Support Team highlighted in the draft OAPs, before the fine-tuning workshops, the KPIs which needed further attention to make them smarter and where a target value was missing.</p>

Recommendations	Actions recommended	Relevant Actors and action leader (AL)	Timeline	State of Play
<p>6.3 Making eligible costs clearer</p>	<p>Europol is invited to draft a list of most common expenses specifying if they are considered eligible or not in addition to its continuous effort in replying to requests for clarifications on the existing eligibility rules. This will be shared and discussed with the expert WG on funding (see recommendation 1.2), NECs and drivers and if needed, followed up.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COSI • European Commission • EUROPOL (RL) • NECs • GSC • Drivers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 2021: Updated funding guide for beginners submitted to NECs/COSI SG 	<p>Status: Completed</p> <p>The requested list has been published on the EPE in Q4 2021.</p>
<p>6.4 Classifying OAP information as “Basic Protection Level”</p>	<p>Europol to explore if the current PRT template may be used as a BPL document to correspond to the planning nature of the OAP and facilitate better cooperation with non-EU and non-law enforcement partners. Europol to prepare a note on the future drafting of the OAPs addressing the level and type of information to be introduced/removed whilst indicating the best domain in which the EU-R and sensitive information can be detailed and discussed (e.g. OAP kick-off meetings, fine-tuning workshops, information exchange via SIENA etc.).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actors submitting a proposal for an Operational Action • Europol (RL) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 2021: NEC meeting 	<p>Status: Completed</p> <p>The topic was presented to NECs on 19 April and in the subsequent collection of OA proposals in June-July 2021. As a result, the OAPs 2022 only contain OAs with Europol BPL classification.</p>

Recommendations	Actions recommended	Relevant Actors and action leader (AL)	Timeline	State of Play
7. Increasing the EU SOCTA added value				
7.1 Further engaging with the Academic Advisory Group	Europol to continue consultations and deepen its engagement with academia especially in the further iterative development of the SOCTA Methodology. This should be also reflected in the SOCTA Customer requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Europol (RL) • SOCTA Advisory Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Interim EU SOCTA 2023" (tbc) • EU SOCTA 2025 	<p>Status: Ongoing</p> <p>The overall engagement strategy with academia is under review and will form part of the SOCTA 2021 evaluation with outcomes and recommendations to be presented later in 2021.</p>
7.2 Tailoring the EU SOCTA Methodology Manual to non-Law Enforcement Agencies	Europol to continue to encourage Members States to consult all relevant national agencies (such as environmental protection authorities, intellectual property offices, etc.) as part of the data collection process in compliance with legal and administrative arrangements at the national level. Europol to provide clear guidance in relation to providing data and data collection for non-law enforcement relevant actors, as part of the SOCTA methodology manual. This should be also reflected in the relevant SOCTA document (for instance Customer requirements)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Europol (RL) • SOCTA Advisory Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Interim EU SOCTA 2023" (tbc) • EU SOCTA 2025 	<p>Status: Ongoing</p> <p>The way forward on engagement with non-Law Enforcement Agencies will form part of the SOCTA 2021 evaluation as well.</p>

Recommendations	Actions recommended	Relevant Actors and action leader (AL)	Timeline	State of Play
<p>7.3 Enhancing data collection about non EU Countries</p>	<p>COM to map the relevant existing programmes operating outside of the EU.</p> <p>Europol to start or continue its engagement in EU projects with components supporting the contribution to EU SOCTA in order to enhance the data collection about non EU countries. This should be also reflected in the relevant SOCTA document (for instance Customer requirements).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Europol (RL) • COM/EEAS (RL) • SOCTA Advisory Group • Relevant EU Agencies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Interim EU SOCTA 2023" (tbc) • EU SOCTA 2025 	<p>Status: Ongoing</p> <p>COM services (DG NEAR, DG INTPA and FPI) in their role as coordinator of CHSG n°8 informed Drivers about the most relevant regional law enforcement cooperation projects in the Neighbourhood East, South and the Western Balkans, in Latin America and the Caribbean's as well as in Africa and Asia. Many of them are based on the EU SOCTA/EMPACT methodology and mechanisms and are implemented with the help of CEPOL, EUROPOL, UN Agencies or Member States' operators. A mapping of global, trans regional and regional programs will be soon disseminated to the Drivers.</p> <p>Europol stepped into 4 CEPOL projects supporting WB, EP and MENA countries – Europol has dedicated staff supporting these projects – one of the objectives is to improve the strategic input for future SOCTA's.</p>